

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of setting a fractured bone using an intramedullary nail having a first
- 2 hole for a proximal locking screw and a second hole for a distal locking screw,
- 3 comprising:
 - 4 reaming a primary cavity extending from a proximal area, across a fractured
 - 5 area, and into a distal area of the fractured bone, to a first diameter;
 - 6 reaming an expanded cavity in the proximal area of the fractured bone,
 - 7 wherein the primary and the expanded cavities are aligned;
 - 8 inserting the intramedullary nail so as to extend from the expanded cavity to
 - 9 a distal end of the primary cavity;
 - 10 removing a bone fragment from the proximal area of the fractured bone to
 - 11 expose the first hole in the inserted intramedullary nail;
 - 12 inserting the proximal locking screw through the exposed first hole and into
 - 13 the proximal area of the fractured bone without use of a jig; and
 - 14 succoring the removed bone fragment to the proximal area of the fractured
 - 15 bone from which the bone fragment was removed, after insertion of the proximal
 - 16 locking screw.
- 1 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein:
 - 2 the fractured bone is a femur;
 - 3 the proximal area of the fractured bone includes at least one of a greater

4 trochanter and a lesser trochanter of the femur; and
5 the proximal locking screw is inserted into one of the greater trochanter and
6 the lesser trochanter.

1 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the proximal locking screw has a
2 hollow core, and further comprising:
3 inserting a solid filler screw into the hollow core of the inserted proximal
4 locking screw.

1 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein:
2 with the bone fragment removed from the proximal area of the fractured
3 bone, the first hole is visible to the naked eye of the surgeon.

1 5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
2 selecting a first nail member having the first hole for the proximal locking
3 screw, and a second nail member having the second hole for the distal locking
4 screw, based on attributes of the fractured bone; and
5 attaching the selected first nail member to the selected second nail member
6 to form the intramedullary nail.

1 6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
2 drilling a hole in the distal area of the fractured bone to expose the second

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3 hole in the intramedullary nail; and
4 inserting the distal locking screw through the exposed second hole and into
5 the distal area of the fractured bone without use of a jig.

1 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the distal locking screw has a hollow
2 core, and further comprising:
3 inserting a solid filler screw into the hollow core of the inserted distal locking
4 screw.